

Scripture and Prayer for The Week

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means "God is with us." Matthew 1:23.

God of presence and love, remind us that you are as near as the next breath, here and now, everywhere and always. We need not be afraid.

We pray in the name of the one called Emmanuel, and for his sake. Amen.

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Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of our communities and world.

Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church affirms the teachings of Jesus Christ by welcoming all of God's children regardless of race, age, gender, family status, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, ethnic background, socioeconomic status, or any other factor that might separate us from each other. All are invited to join our shared journey of faith and participate fully in the life of our church.

Saturday, December 7, 2019

4:00 P.M.

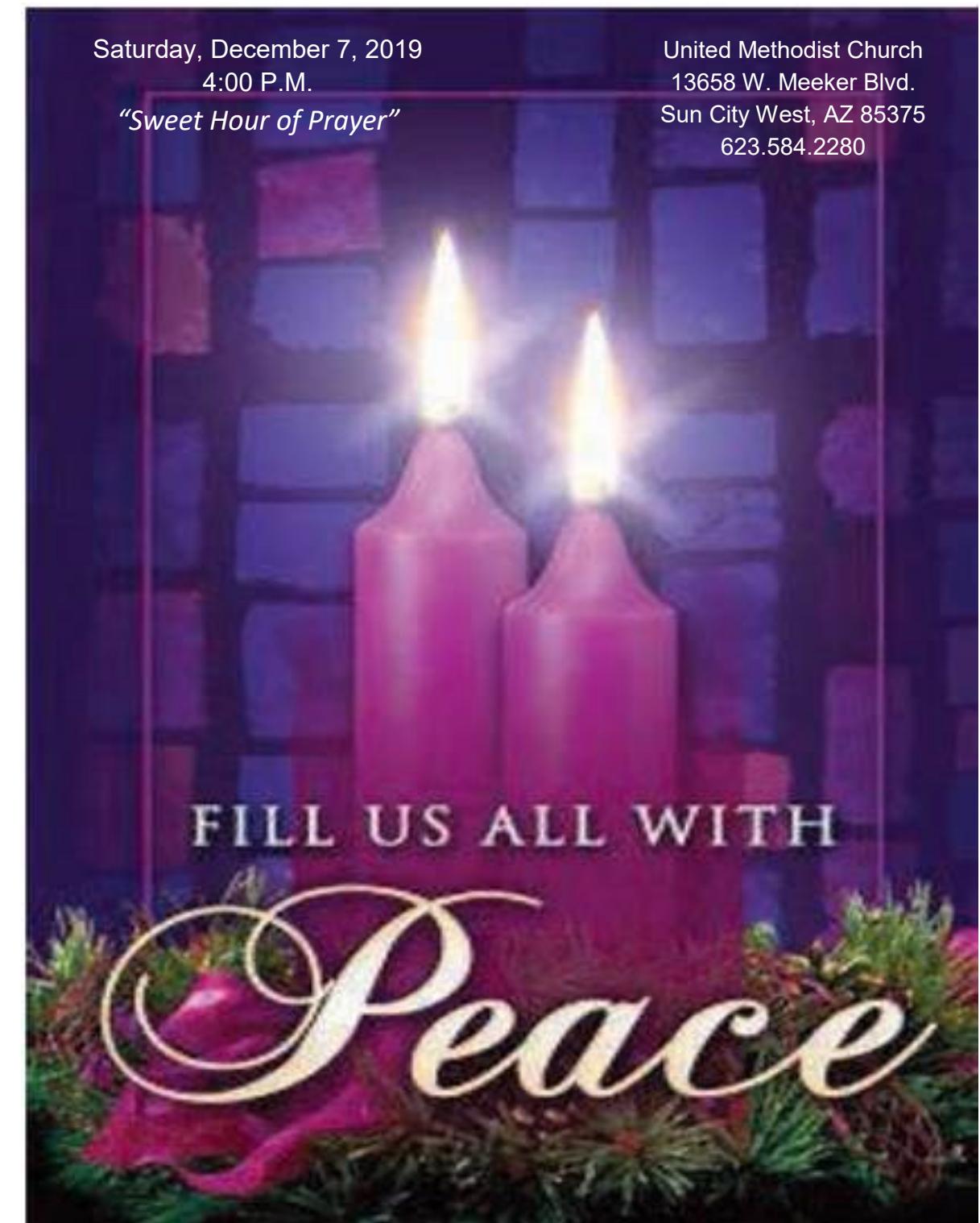
"Sweet Hour of Prayer"

United Methodist Church

13658 W. Meeker Blvd.

Sun City West, AZ 85375

623.584.2280



As we worship . . . Please silence your cell phone.

We Are Chosen

We Are Blessed

We Are Loved

ORDER OF WORSHIP

* Indicates stand as you are comfortable

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Deborah Lerner

PRELUDE

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

Cindy Larson & Bill Moore, piano duet

BLESSING OF FOOD BANK CHRISTMAS BAGS

OPENING PRAYER— In Unison

Liturgist

God of all seasons, in this Advent Season we gather with expectant hearts to worship You. We are eager to hear, once more, how you sent your son to live among us. He came as one of us, to redeem us and save us from ourselves. Help us to hear this story of your extravagant love in a new, life-changing way. Enable us to worship you in Spirit and in Truth, for we pray in the name of the One who IS Truth, Jesus our Christ. Amen.

HYMN SING - Your Choice! We will sing the first verse of each.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Lyle & Karen Blessing

Today we light two candles. The first candle reminds us of the hope found in knowing Jesus as our Wonderful Counselor. As we light the second candle we celebrate the fact that God loves us in spite of our flaws, just as a parent loves a child. In an unsettled world, surrounded by confusion, we affirm that our Everlasting Father is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

SONG OF RESPONSE

"Emmanuel, Emmanuel"

UMH #204

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostle's Creed

In Unison

Liturgist

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. The third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"When Christmas Day is Dawning"

Bill Moore

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 1:18-25

Liturgist

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God.

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER FOR OPENNESS TO THE WORD

Pastor: Now let the words of my mouth

People: **And the meditations of our hearts**

All: **Be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord,
my rock and my redeemer. Amen.**

MESSAGE *"The Journey: Joseph of Bethlehem"*

Rev. Deborah Lerner

*HYMN OF RESPONSE *"Love Came Down at Christmas"*

UMH #242

PRAYERS

PRAYER RESPONSE *"Away in a Manger"*

UMH #217 v. 3

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *"Adore"*

Bill Moore

*HYMN OF PRAISE *"Angels We Have Heard on High" (refrain only)*

UMH #238

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Liturgist

*THE LORD'S PRAYER - In Unison

*CLOSING HYMN

"While Shepherds Watched their Flocks"

UMH #236 vs. 1, 3, 4, 6

BLESSING

Rev. Deborah Lerner

POSTLUDE

"Angels from the Realms of Glory"

arr. Rick Parks

Liturgist

Clark Root

The yellow rosebud today is in memory of Ruth Williams' birthday. Love Jim and Mary Williams.

The red rosebud today is in memory of Oscar Walth's birthday. Love Jim and Mary Williams.

Our Shepherd's Love is extended to Don Redarowicz at the news of the death of his wife, Sharon on December 1, 2019. Arrangements are pending at this time.

Our Shepherd's Love is extended to the family and friends of Virginia Mont, who passed away on December 3, 2019. Arrangements are pending at this time.

(Weekly Scripture and Prayer located on back of bulletin)